

## THE CONTACTS OF CIVILIZATIONS

within the ranks further encouraged centralization.

The rift

the civil and military authorities, the antagonism

between the

and the administration, the independentist

struggles of the

services and local administrations, the secessionist

movement in Cochin-

China—all forced the Governors-General into

strengthening the

of the federal government as the price of survival

pres-

sure, to be rid of subsidies to an unpopular colony,

ing the federal grip on the country's finances. It is not

not only was the Protectorate ideal almost wholly

eclipsed ? but

the bureaucracy which sprang up in its place

overstepped the

Its excessive centralization was the object of not

by the

French from within, but from the natives without.

They

its

omissions and commissions ^ its expense, its

yet

wanted a larger share in its powers and direction\* If

get control it remains to be seen whether the not

gathered so much momentum that they will be

up and carried farther along the road to

The poverty of Annam, more than respect for treaties

or the

of a recalcitrant traditionalism, is responsible for its

un-

touched administration. The French contented

themselves

a grip on the country's finances and deposing

leaving the existing mandarinat almost wholly

intact. Only a few

feeble efforts were made *to* revise legislation

The

country was too poor, too underpopulated, too

too

hostile to justify the expense and -effort required to *m*

effective. The policy of dividing and the

Annamite countries had clipped *the* of

given to France direct control over the two  
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 richer countries of the BnkMk  
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